for this purpose, so far, by the Government of India also include indigenous games like Kabadd:, Kho-Kho, Tug of War and Atya Patya.

(c) The Ministry has no proposal for setting up of Village Sports Academy, However, the rural sportspersons are provided opportunities under the various scheme of the Ministry as well as Sports Authority of India(SAI). Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is implementing a scheme of'Incentives for Promotion of Sports Activities' under which Rural Sports Programme is one of the components. Rural Sports Programme being implemented through Sports Authority of India (SAI), provides for grant-in-aid for organizing
District level, State and National Level tournaments. In addition, Sports Authority of India implements following schemes for spotting, nurturing and developing talented sportspersons to excel at international level:—

1. National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)
2. Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)
3. SAI Training Centre (STC)
4. Centre of Excellence (COX)
5. Special Area Games(SAG)

(d) Funds are not allocated State-wise.

Upgradation of Selection System

3272. SHRI S.M.LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that genuine sports persons are not getting a chance to compete in various national games and sports events in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the system of selection of players in various State by their respective games or sports association is totally tainted and leads to all forms of favouritism;

(c) whether Government have found a way to upgrade such systems of selections in various States;

(d) if so, the details of the upgradation done to select the best sportsmen and talent for all games in the country; and

(e) the details of steps proposed to improve the system of selection of sports person?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) The selection of sports persons for participation in national games and sports events is done by the State Level Sports Federations/Associations of the concerned sports and 'Sports' being in 'State List' of the constitution, the Central Government has no role in this regard.

(e) The Selection of National teams is done by the concerned National Sports Federations. However, the Government has appointed Observers for various sports disciplines who are required to be present at the selection and given a report to this Ministry as to whether transparent and fair process of selection has been followed.

Permission for alt Punjab Games

†3273. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "All Punjab Games" were held in the State of Punjab between the Punjab State in our country and Punjab province of Pakistan;

(b) whether the State Government of Punjab had sought any permission from the Central Government or any pre-information was given therefor;

(c) if so, whether permission for such kind of sports meet between States can be given; and

(d) if not, whether the Central Government have made any enquiry from the State Government of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) The Government of India had received a proposal from the Government of Punjab in September, 2004 seeking financial assistance for holding the First East-West Punjab Games at Patiala from 5th to 11th December, 2004. The Games were organized

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.